



Beaufort County Solid Waste and Recycling Board Meeting

Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, SC

Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 2:00 PM

MINUTES

Watch the video stream available on the County's website to hear the whole discussion or presentation on a specific topic or the complete meeting. <https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/206535>

Attendees:

Mike Bennett, Ex-Officio, Hilton Head
Lawrence Bryan – District 5 – Sheldon
Sally Dennis – District 7 – Lady's Island
Marc Feinberg – District 9 – Bluffton
Brad Woods – MCRD Liaison
David Bartholomew – Council Liaison
Matthew Riccobene – BCSO
Evan Eggleston – MCAS Liaison
Bradley Harriot- Public Works
Pamela Cobb – Public Works
Victoria Hoffman – Public Works
Sally McLeod – Public Works

Absent:

Bryan Durrance – Ex-Officio, City of Beaufort
Larry Beckler – Ex-Officio, Town of Bluffton
Chris Vaigneur – MCAS Liaison
Reahrita Tuten – SCDHEC Liaison
Jesus Rodriguez – Solid Waste and Recycling
Chloee McGuigan – Solid Waste and Recycling
Valentina Palacio-Ruiz – Solid Waste and Recycling

1. **Call to Order:** Victoria Hoffman – 2:00 PM
2. **Approval of 2025 Calendar:** Approved
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Approved
5. **Introductions:** Completed
6. **Public Comment:** There were no members of the public in attendance.
7. **SWR Reports:**

The report was sent to the Board Members in a Newsletter Report, outlining all departments within Solid Waste and Recycling along with the Compost Pilot Program; Mr. Bennett asked if the total cost was from March; Ms. Hoffman confirmed that it was mid-March and not the full quarter three. Quarter three data will be forthcoming in May.

Ms. Hoffman presented a program update to the County Council and gave the presentation to the Board since this is the first meeting with a quorum. Highlights of the slide show are as follows. Update included Vision, Mission and Goals for the program; Introduced Recycle Coach which is an app that will provide information on what items can be recycled; working with IT and our communications team to provide real time data to provide transparency to residents and encourage them to continue to recycle; We have partnered with I2 Recycling and are very satisfied with their service. Last year we worked with Parks and Rec Department to purchase three stream bins for recycling at their facilities; we are looking for additional funds to continue this program; We have

produced an educational film on recycling and incorporated a QR code to take people directly to the SW Decal program; looking to have an automated system in the future to alleviate the need for an attendant and use their skills in another area of the Center; Mr. Bryan asked where the decals were to be obtained; Ms. Hoffman explained that the permit has replaced the decal. Ms. Hoffman also explained that the application is populated on the first page of our website. Mr. Feinberg wanted to know how we are looking at various vendors to scan permit holders into the Center; Ms. Hoffman explained we are now just in the planning phase, and we have to work with our IT department to make sure all data is protected and can communicate with the automated arm at the Center. Once this has been established, we can then research the vendors and the type of equipment we will need and will follow proper procurement procedures.

Mr. Bryan was concerned that the process would do away with positions at the Center. Ms. Hoffman reassured that the employees would not be terminated but only moved to a different area within the Centers. No attendant will be replaced.

We have procured new waste compactors at our Centers and are hoping to get the last remaining compactor for St. Helena soon.

Mr. Bennet asked which center will be the pilot center for the auto arm; Ms. Hoffman confirmed Shanklin would serve as the pilot center.

A pilot program for E-waste drop off has been established in Beaufort County. Our events that are held are quite expensive (\$13,000 - \$15,000). With the e-waste drop off we can opt into the clearinghouse program, and we will not be burdened with this large expense and can offer drop offs regularly. All materials and shipping are free under this program. We are hoping in the future to be able to start receiving revenue back from this program. Mr. Feinberg asked if this program is picking up in popularity and when the e-waste events are held; Ms. Hoffman explained it is very popular and are held on Wednesdays. Mr. Bennett asked if we are ready to promote this program more; Ms. Hoffman confirmed that we are ready to ramp up the program.

We have streamlined bulk waste at Shanklin Center. We have partnered with a local vendor who will accept our bulk metal.

We are increasing our signage at all Centers and are adding bi-lingual signage as well.

We have been able to procure funds to purchase Rerun Roll Off Containers for all Centers. Ms. Hoffman reiterated how happy we are with our Partner, I2 Recycling.

Educational programs are in place with Green Talks at libraries, giving school presentations, planning Earth Day and America Recycles Day, in which citizens were invited to come to the I2 facility to see how the process works.

Jesus Rodriguez has improved and continued Partnership with Palmetto Pride and Adopt a Highway Program; has increased his litter crew and is also working with BCSO with code enforcement. Mr. Bennett asked the parameters of code enforcement within the County in which tickets could be given out by citizens. Sgt. Riccobene explained that BCSO and Jesus Rodriguez can give civil citations. Ms. Hoffman also explained how difficult it is to pinpoint the guilty party; suggested that possibly a law enforcement officer in Hilton Head should be dedicated to litter control. Valentina and Jesus are working to incorporate litter program in her educational programs.

USDA Compost Pilot Program Update – Received \$273,600 from USDA to initiate a pilot program and we are still in the planning phases. We have a consultant, HDR, to create the plan so it will be a solid program from the beginning. We are between Phase 2 and Phase 3 with a hopeful forecast to have Collection Centers in November 2025 starting with residential drop off at Centers; Valentina will go into the community to provide education and a crock for the residents to begin using the pilot program. Mr. Feinberg asked how many crocks would be purchased; Ms. Hoffman stated that all citizens won't be given a crock, only the people that will attend the events. In the process of procuring the Center equipment now.

Mr. Bryan asked how long it will take to repair to compactors that are broken at Shanklin; Ms. Hoffman stated that we are in the process of procuring compactors for Shanklin Center. This request has already been approved by County Council; as soon as County Administrator signs off, we will be ordering; they should be procured and installed in the next few months; St. Helena should be getting equipment in FY26.

Budget Review was submitted to County Council already. In FY 26 – SWR goes back to a General Fund instead of an Enterprise Fund.

8. New Business:

Appointment of Chair: Mr. Feinberg made a motion for Sally Dennis to be Chair; Mr. Bryan seconded the motion; approved

Appointment of Co-Chair: Ms. Dennis made a motion for Marc Feinberg to be Co-Chair; Mr. Bryan seconded the motion; approved

Mr. Bennett asked what is being done to get more Board Representatives to the Board; Mr. Feinberg said that the Board Members need to go to Council people, the board members, and Victoria to investigate the matter. There are two vacancies for this Board in Solid Waste Districts 6 and 8. Ms. Hoffman stated she will be reaching out again to Boards and Commissions.

9. Public Comment : None

10. Adjournment – 2:55 PM